HI-DESERT STAR

YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 92284 (714) 365-3315

SERVING THE MORONGO BASIN

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Preparing a Powder Puff Aloha

The Yucca Valley Girls Club will be sending off the only Hi-Desert contestants in the 30th Annual Powder Puff Derby. The transcontinental race leaves Palm Springs at 8 a.m. on July 1. The desert team and the girl's club are, from the left, club director Jackie Smith, pilot Colleen Armstrong, copilot Jeanine Bertrand, Laura Lee Lemke, Yvonne Smith, Terri Lawson, Lynda Quane, and Melissa Zimmerman.

Floral sendoff

The newly formed Yucca Valley Girls Club, under the direction of Jackie Smith and Mae Quane, is beginning their first year by providing their services to the 30th annual Powder Puff Derby.

The eight local girls will be decorating the reception room and the pool areas of the Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs. The pool area will be used for the derby luau. The girls will be decorating it with leis and floats that they are making.

The only women from the Hi-Desert area who are entering the derby are Colleen Armstrong, pilot, and Jeanine Bertrand, copilot. They will be flying Ms. Armstrong's airplane, the Navion. They have drawn entry number 83.

There are 150 airplanes that have entered this all-women trans-continental flight, which leaves Palm Springs on July 1. The contestants will be taking off in sequential order beginning at 8 a.m. They will fly from Palm Springs to Tampa, Fla.

The Yucca Valley Girls Club is a philanthropic organization. The girls are really excited about their involvement with the derby, according to Smith. It is the club's first project.

On June 11, the pilot and copilot spent several hours with the girls. They explained some of the aspects of flying and discussed the course they would be taking to Tampa.

The girls are planning to be at the Palm Springs Airport to cheer on their team as they take off on this long flight.